SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS

12¢

NOV.
NO. 186

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

BATMAN

HAHAHOHO! FOR LAUGHING OUT LOUD!

THE CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME IS BACK WITH A NEW HILARIOUS HENCHMAN!

"THE JOKER'S ORIGINAL ROBBERIES!"

THE CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME IS BACK IN TOWN--WITH A NEW LINE OF LARCENOUS LAUGHS, OF BOFFS AND BURGLARIES, OF MIRTHFUL MENACES! THIS TIME WITH THE AID OF ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL HENCHMEN ANY COSTUMED VILLAIN HAS EVER RECRUITED! YOU'LL MEET THIS STARTLING NEWCOMER, AS THE EMBATTLED *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* DO, IN THE EXPLOSIVELY HILARIOUS STORY OF--

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

The JOKER'S ORIGINAL ROBBERIES!

I GOT BATMAN'S EYES COVERED, JOKER! GIVE HIM THE OL' PUNCHLINE!
WITH PLEASURE, GAGGY!
THAT NEW STOOGE OF THE JOKER'S IS MORE OF A MENACE THAN A GANG OF GUNMEN!
RAOW!

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FOR THE BENEFIT OF FUTURE HISTORIANS OF CRIME IN GOTHAM CITY, WE PRESENT A TYPICAL DAY IN THE UNDER-WORLD HIDE-OUT OF THAT LANCELOT OF LARCENY, THAT GRAND BUFFOON OF BURGLARY, THE JOKER, AND HIS GANG...

SAFECRACKING AREA, NO DYNAMITE PERMITTED!

I'LL TAKE TWO, SHIFTY -- FROM THE TOP!

AW, IT'S NO FUN PLAYIN' LEGIT!

FRIENDLY CARD GAME!

HAHAHA! HAHAHA!

PICKPOCKET PRACTICE

HAHAHA, GAGGY -- AS A WEIGHT-LIFTER, YOU'RE A SCREAM!

TALK ABOUT SCREAMING, JOKER -- WATCH THIS --

--MY SPECIAL GLASS-SHATTERING SCREAM--!

ULP! HE CRACKED THE GLASS!

HA! HA! HA!

EEEEEEEEE!

CRACK!

INTRODUCING GAGSWORTH A. GAGSWORTHY, DWARF EXTRAORDINARY, REFUGEE FROM A CIRCUS, AND NOW COURT JESTER TO THE CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME!

GOT TO KEEP THE BOSS LAUGHING -- THAT'S MY JOB!

OOPS! I BUCKED -- WHEN I SHOULD'VE WINGED!

HAHAHA

BATMAN HAS ROBIN TO ASSIST HIM -- SO WHY SHOULDN'T I HAVE A PROTEGE OF MY OWN? RIGHT NOW I WOULDN'T TRADE GAGGY FOR A WHOLE NEST OF ROBINS -- HAHAHA!

LOOK WHAT I WORKED UP-- AS A DISGUISE FOR WHEN WE GO OUT ON A CRIME, JOKER! THIS FALSE NOSE!

HAHAHAHO-- A FALSE NOSE DISGUISE--?!

SURE--WHO'D RECOGNIZE ME LIKE THIS? WHO'D SUSPECT I'M REALLY GAGGY THE DWARF?

GAGGY, YOU KILL ME! HAHA WAIT A SECOND--IT'S COMING...

I JUST GOT A SENSATIONAL IDEA FOR A CRIME--THE GREATEST BRAINSTORM I'VE HAD YET! GATHER ROUND, GANG--!

FRI Y CARD AME

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT! THAT STAND-IN FOR A FIREPLUG MAKES THE JOKER LAUGH...AND WHEN THE JOKER LAUGHS HARD 'ENOUGH--HE COMES UP WITH A TERRIFIC CRIME SCHEME!

DON'T KNOCK IT! IT WORKS EVERY TIME!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE WORTH YOUR WEIGHT IN GOLD TO US, GAGGY!

YEAH! TOO BAD YOU DON'T WEIGH MORE!-

LISTEN! THIS NEW CAPER OF OURS WILL ROCK BATMAN AND ROBIN BACK ON THEIR HEELS--TO SAY NOTHING OF GOTHAM CITY!

HERE'S WHAT WE'VE GOT TO DO-- BZZZZZ-- BZZZZ--

IN THE SPACIOUS SALON OF SPECTACLES IN MID-TOWN, A COLORFUL EXHIBITION OF ORIGINAL MODELS OF FAMOUS INVENTIONS...

I WONDER HOW MUCH THESE ORIGINAL MODELS ARE WORTH?

MOST OF THEM ARE ON LOAN FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES! THEY'RE PRICELESS!

THAT EXPLAINS ALL THE SECURITY GUARDS HERE!

SALON OF SPECTA

ORIGINAL PHONOGRAPH

LIGHT BULB

ORIGINAL STEAMBOAT

SUDDENLY, AN ENTRY ON WHEELS WITH A FANFARE OF LAUGHTER...

THE JOKER-- AND HIS GANG--!

HAHAHAHAHOHO YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS FOLKS-- BUT THIS--HEEHEE--IS A ROBBERY! TAKE CARE OF THE GUARDS, GAGGY--!

BATTLESHIP

EE CRACK! EEEEEEEEEE

AS THE MINIONS OF THE LAW RUSH TOWARD THE MOBSTERS, AN INCREDIBLE GLASS-SHATTERING SCREAM ISSUES FROM THE JOKER'S STOOGE...

OHHH! THAT AWFUL SOUND!

THE CHANDELIER-- CRACKING UP-- FALLING ON THE GUARDS--!

HAHAHAHAHA MOVE THE LOOT INTO THE CAR, BOYS--QUICK!

JOKER'S CAPER CAR ORIGINAL MODEL

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

CHANDELIER OF PANEL 6 ABOVE

If you could have only one toy in the world, what would it be? How about a toy that makes toys?

You can get a Mattel Thingmaker® that makes

Creepy Crawlers,

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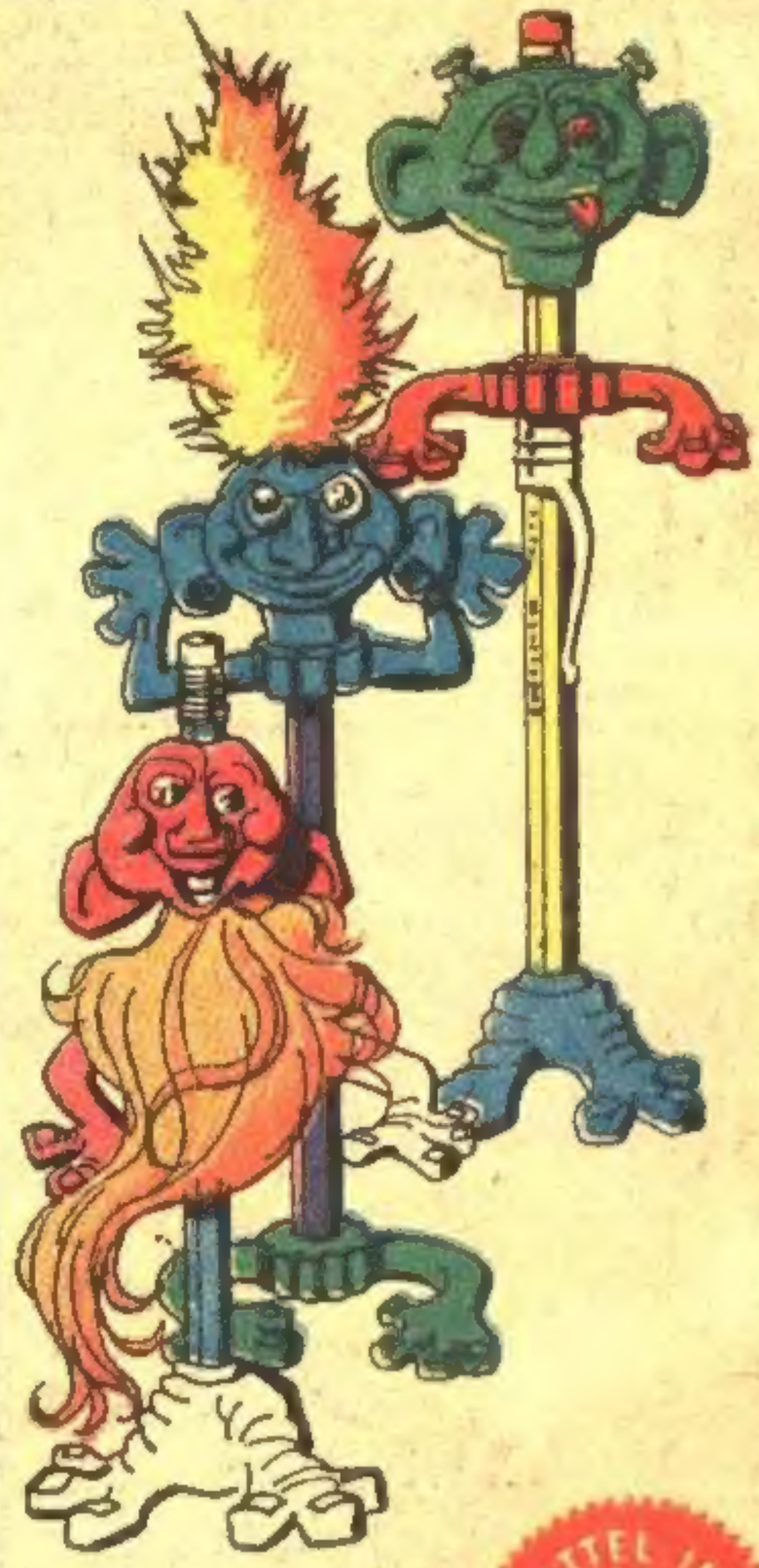
or Fighting Men,

Make as many soldiers as you want! Pose 'em any way you like. Make all their equipment—rifles machine guns, bazookas, tanks, and more.

or Creeple Peeple™

Make 'em yourself. They're so ugly you love them. Decorate pencils with them. Wear them as jewelry. Or just stare at them and shudder.



Make 'em. Trade 'em. Sell 'em.

MATTEL INC. TOYMAKERS

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AT THAT MOMENT, UNNOTICED IN THE SUDDEN CONFUSION, A PAIR OF VISITORS...

WE'VE GOT TO STOP THE JOKER, BRUCE! HE'S OUT TO ROB THESE ORIGINAL MODELS!

WE'LL TAKE A CHANCE-- CHANGE IN THIS SAFETY EXIT, DICK! HURRY!

ONLY THE JOKER WOULD DARE TO PULL A CRIME LIKE THIS IN FULL VIEW OF EVERYONE!

BATMAN AND ROBIN!? FANCY MEETING YOU TWO HERE--HAHA!!

SWIFTLY, THE MIRTHFUL MADCAP YANKS A LEVER IN HIS CAPER CAR AND...

LOOK OUT, ROBIN! THE JOKER'S WHEELING AND DEALING--

SHOOTING AN EXTRA SET OF WHEELS OFF HIS CAR -- ROLLING STRAIGHT AT US--!

POW! BAM! BAM!

BUT THE DYNAMIC DUO--WITHOUT BREAKING STRIDE..

UP--

--AND AT 'EM, BATMAN!

VERY CLEVER OF YOU TO BE SO AGILE, MY SLEUTHY FRIENDS, BUT YOU HAVEN'T LAID HANDS ON THE JOKER YET, HAVE YOU?

YANKING ANOTHER OF THOSE LEVERS ALONGSIDE HIM IN THAT CAR!

THE NEXT INSTANT...

AN EJECTION SEAT?

I'LL ADMIT IT'S NOT THE MOST COMFORTABLE WAY TO TRAVEL-- BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO ADMIT IT'S ORIGINAL! AND THE POINT IS--

--IT GETS ME THERE, SEE? HAHAHAHO!

JOKER, YOU'RE LAUGHING TOO SOON--

THUD!

SUDDENLY, A FLANK ATTACK ON ROBIN...

YAAA! I'VE BEEN WAITING TO GET MY HANDS ON YOU, BOY WONDER!

LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN STOMACH THIS!

WH-WHO'S THIS CUT-UP?

ZIP!

STUNNED HIM! NOW'S MY CHANCE--THE BIG CHANCE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR--

WHUMP!

--TO UNCOVER ROBIN'S SECRET IDENTITY! WHAT A FEATHER IN MY CAP THAT'LL BE! eh? HIS MASK'S SO TIGHT-- GOT TO WRIGGLE MY FINGERS UNDER IT--

THEN, LOST OPPORTUNITY...

LAUGH THAT ONE OFF, JOKER!

JOKER-- WATCH WHERE YOU'RE BEING HIT TO!

THWACK!

THAT LITTLE SQUIRT TRIED TO UNMASK ME--

YAA! AND I'LL DO IT YET!

THIS WAY, GAGGY! TIME FOR THE FINALE OF OUR CRIME ACT--!

OF SPEC

THE NEXT MOMENT, THICK CLOUDS OF SMOKE POUR FROM EXHAUST PIPES OF THE CAPER CAR...

COUGH! CLOUDS OF BLINDING SMOKE--

CHOKE! BATMAN-- WHERE ARE YOU?

HAHAHA! LOST IN A FOG-- THAT'S THE WAY I LIKE TO LEAVE THE DYNAMIC DUO! HANG ON, GAGGY! WE'RE TAKING OFF!

AND WHEN THE PALL LIFTS...

HOLY SMOKESCREEN! ALL THE MODELS GONE-- ALONG WITH THE JOKER AND HIS MOB!

COME ON, ROBIN! MAYBE WE CAN STILL NAB THEM! QUICK-- OUTSIDE!

BUT ON THE STREET...

GONE-GAVE US THE SLIP! BUT THE NIGHT'S STILL YOUNG--

TO THE BAT-MOBILE!

IN DUE COURSE, AFTER A GRIM HUNT THROUGH THE CITY...

HE'S MADE HIMSELF SCARCE ALL RIGHT, BATMAN! LEFT US EMPTY-HANDED!

I HAVE AN IDEA! WHEN THE JOKER STARTS A CRIME SCHEME, HE CARRIES IT OUT. WITH FANATICAL THOROUGHNESS! LISTEN...

HE STOLE ALL THE ORIGINAL MODELS AT THE EXHIBIT! BUT I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT THERE'S ONE IMPORTANT MODEL THAT DIDN'T APPEAR AT THE EXHIBIT-- THE MODEL OF THE FIRST ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER! THE INVENTOR IS STILL LIVING IN GOTHAM CITY...

I READ ABOUT HIM IN A RECENT NEWSPAPER ARTICLE-- PHILIP PERRY! UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, THE JOKER IS BOUND TO TRY AND STEAL PERRY'S ORIGINAL MODEL TO COMPLETE HIS COLLECTION!

ONLY ONE WAY TO SEE IF YOU'VE MADE THE RIGHT GUESS, BATMAN--

--AND THAT'S TO SPEED OVER TO PERRY'S PLACE--AND HOPE TO GET THERE BEFORE LAUGHING BOY DOES!

STORY CONTINUES ON 4TH PAGE FOLLOWING

HOLY PARTNERSHIP! the KING OF THE KOOKS Joins the CAPED CRUSADER!

BUT WHEN "BATMAN MEETS JERRY"

HE ALMOST LAUGHS HIMSELF TO DEATH-- AND SO WILL YOU! ON SALE SEPT 20TH

AMERICA'S FUNNIEST COMIC MAG!
JERRY LEWIS
12¢
THE DYNAMIC DUO FACE THEIR DAFFIEST PERIL! IT'S HO-HO-HOMICIDE WHEN BATMAN MEETS JERRY!
LASER BEAM
YIKES! IT'S BATMAN AND ROBIN!
JOKER'S HEALTH CLUB
H. PELLERIN! YOU WON'T HAVE TO WAIT LONG FOR THE SUN LAMP! I'LL BE DONE IN A SECOND!

LOST--A FREE EDUCATION!

HOW COME YOU WEREN'T IN SCHOOL TODAY, TIM?

I WAS BUSY LINING UP A JOB FOR MYSELF. I'M GONNA QUIT SCHOOL, BINKY!

HECK, I WANT TO MAKE SOME MONEY **NOW** AND HAVE A GOOD TIME INSTEAD OF GETTING SOME MORE BOOK KNOWLEDGE.

YOU'RE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE, TIM. YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF AND TO THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU TO CONTINUE IN SCHOOL...

SAWYER'S GROCERY STORE

YOU'RE THROWING AWAY A WONDERFUL FREE EDUCATION THAT MANY PEOPLE TODAY WOULD GIVE THEIR EYE-TEETH TO HAVE.

YOU'RE NOT KIDDING, BINKY...

LOOK AT *ME!* I HAD THE SAME IDEA FIVE YEARS AGO. SO I GOT A JOB WITH SAWYER'S AND WAS ON TOP OF THE WORLD.

SAWYER'S GROCERY STORE

AND WHAT HAPPENED? ALL MY CLASSMATES WHO FINISHED SCHOOL HAVE GOOD JOBS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT--AND I'M STILL AN ERRAND BOY AT SAWYER'S, WITH NO PLACE TO GO!

NOW I'VE GOT TO GO BACK TO NIGHT SCHOOL TO CATCH UP. DON'T BE A CHUMP, TIM! GO BACK TO SCHOOL!

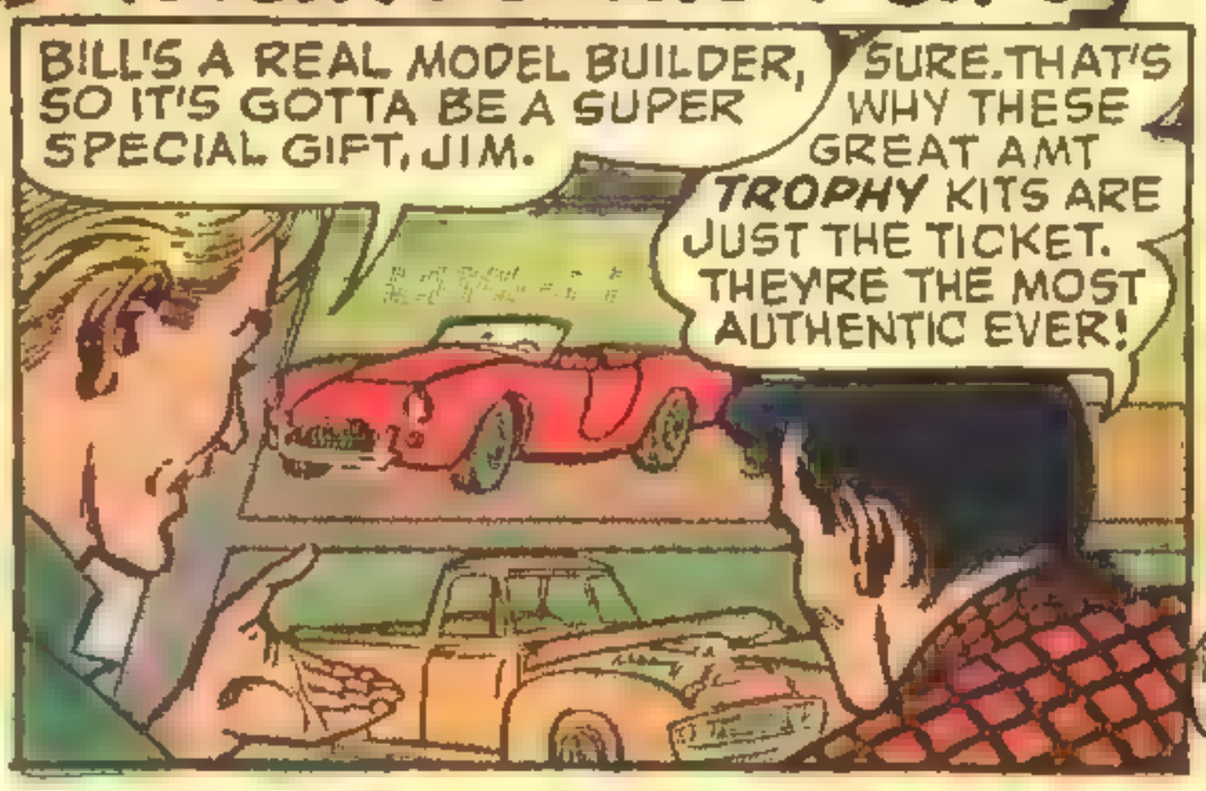
WELL... MAYBE I OUGHT TO THINK IT OVER!

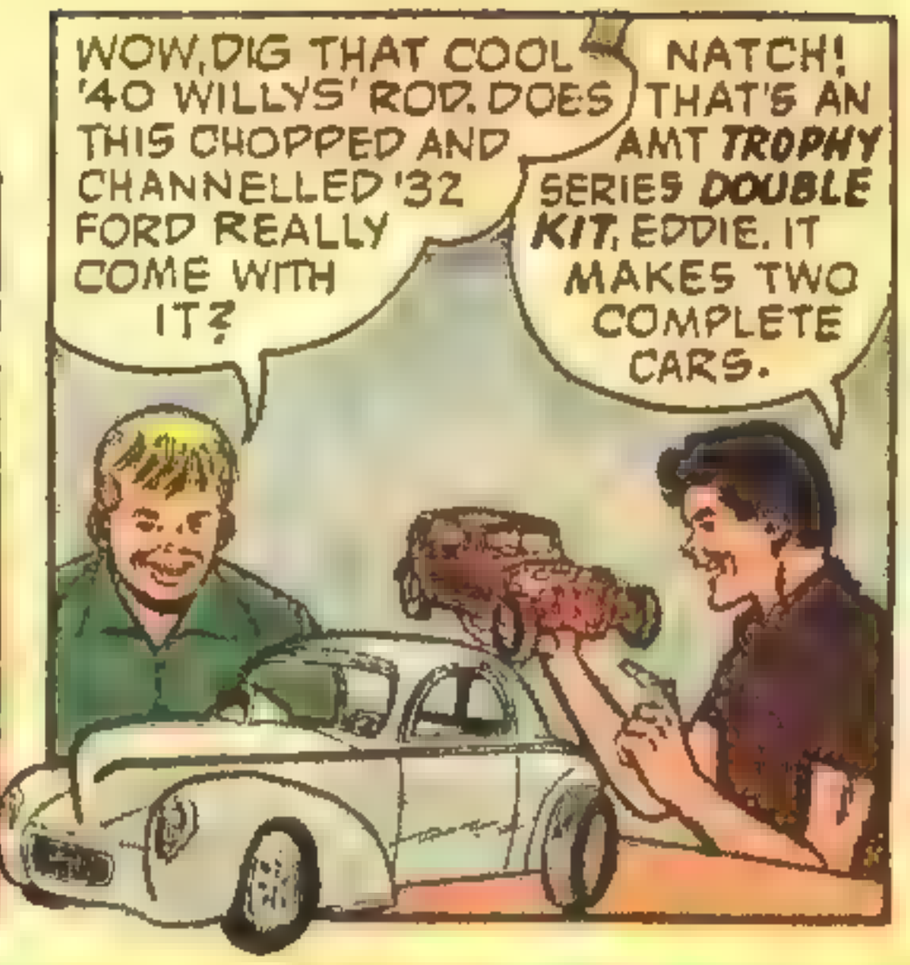
YES, EVERYBODY SHOULD THINK IT OVER--AND REMEMBER THAT EDUCATION IS MORE THAN PUTTING LEARNING INTO YOUR HEAD. IT MAKES A BETTER PERSON OF YOU--A MORE USEFUL CITIZEN, ABLE TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEMS IN LIFE YOU'LL BE FACED WITH!

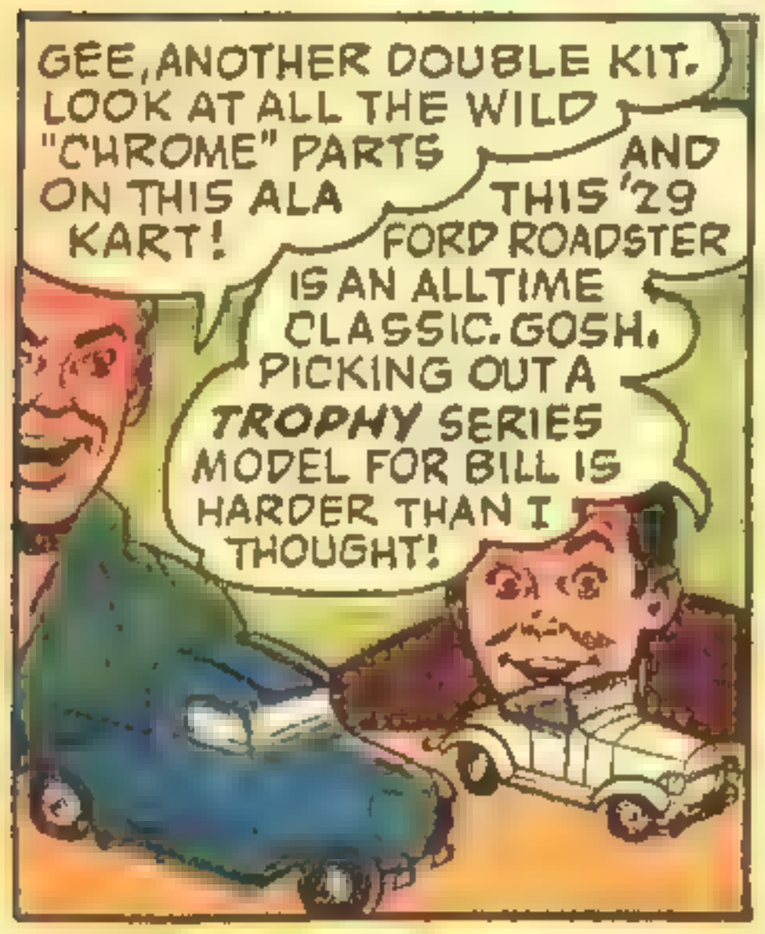
PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

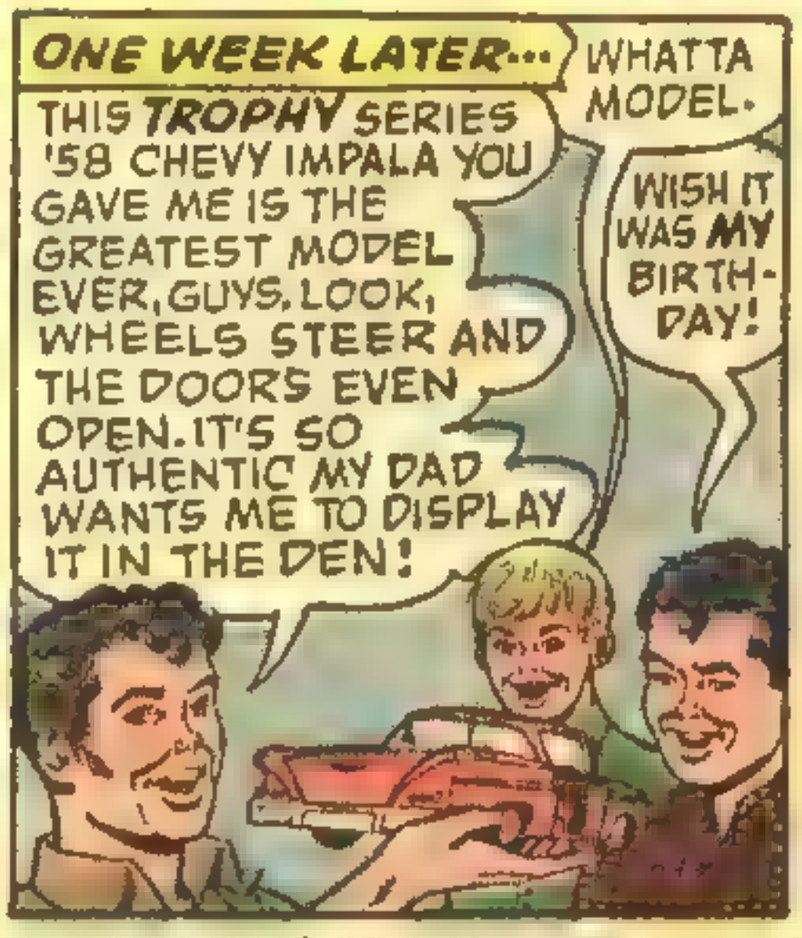
AMT makes the Party

JIM AND EDDIE SEARCH FOR A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY GIFT FOR THEIR PAL.


BILL'S A REAL MODEL BUILDER, SO IT'S GOTTA BE A SUPER SPECIAL GIFT, JIM.
SURE. THAT'S WHY THESE GREAT AMT TROPHY KITS ARE JUST THE TICKET. THEYRE THE MOST AUTHENTIC EVER!


WOW, DIG THAT COOL '40 WILLYS' ROD. DOES THIS CHOPPED AND CHANNELLED '32 FORD REALLY COME WITH IT?
NATCH! THAT'S AN AMT TROPHY SERIES DOUBLE KIT, EDDIE. IT MAKES TWO COMPLETE CARS.


GEE, ANOTHER DOUBLE KIT. LOOK AT ALL THE WILD "CHROME" PARTS ON THIS ALA KART!
AND THIS '29 FORD ROADSTER IS AN ALLTIME CLASSIC. GOSH, PICKING OUT A TROPHY SERIES MODEL FOR BILL IS HARDER THAN I THOUGHT!


ONE WEEK LATER...
WHATTA MODEL.
THIS TROPHY SERIES '58 CHEVY IMPALA YOU GAVE ME IS THE GREATEST MODEL EVER, GUYS. LOOK, WHEELS STEER AND THE DOORS EVEN OPEN. IT'S SO AUTHENTIC MY DAD WANTS ME TO DISPLAY IT IN THE DEN!
WISH IT WAS MY BIRTH-DAY!

GIVE 'EM- AND GET 'EM- AS GIFTS, BUYS. AMT'S COOL, AUTHENTIC TROPHY SERIES 1/25TH-SCALE MODELS.

AMT HAS OVER 30 GREAT MODELS TO CHOOSE FROM. GET 'EM TODAY AT YOUR HOBBY OR DEPARTMENT STORE. $1.70 AND $2.00 A KIT.

AMT CORPORATION
BOX 81, TROY, MICHIGAN

He's NOT:

as STRONG as.. SUPERMAN
as BRAINY as.. BATMAN
as FAST as... the FLASH
as SMALL as.. the ATOM
or as WET as.. AQUAMAN!

WHAT IS HE?

HE'S THE ONE, THE ONLY, ORIGINAL

PLASTIC MAN!

THE SLYEST, SLIPPERY-EST, SLINKY-EST SUPER-HERO OF THEM ALL!

MAKING HIS TRIUMPHANT RETURN IN BRAND-NEW EXPLOITS!

DC
AN EPIC EVENT... THE TRIUMPHANT RETURN OF THE ONE AND ONLY ORIGINAL
12¢
PLASTIC MAN
YOU'LL NEVER KNOW, COMMISSIONER, WHOM I RAN INTO!
BRAND-NEW EXPLOITS OF THE FAMOUS HUMAN RUBBERBAND—THE SLYEST, SLIPPERY-EST, SLINKY-EST SUPER-HERO OF THEM ALL!
SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

ON SALE SEPT. 22nd

THE JOKER'S ORIGINAL CAPERS--PART 2

HURRYING TO THE HOME OF ELDERLY INVENTOR PHILIP PERRY, THE **CAPED CRUSADERS** DISCOVER, NOT THEIR QUARRY, BUT INSTEAD A SURPRISING PIECE OF INFORMATION!..

...AND I MUST CONFESS THAT THE VERY FIRST ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER WAS **NOT** THIS MODEL OF MINE! SOMEBODY BUILT ONE **SIX MONTHS** BEFORE I DID--A MAN NAMED HAMILTON TYNE! HE LIVES IN **GOTHAM CITY** TOO--I CAN GIVE YOU HIS ADDRESS!

THANKS, MR. PERRY--THIS IS **URGENT!**

ONCE AGAIN THE **BATMOBILE** SCREAMS ACROSS THE CITY...

GO GET 'EM, **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN!**

SOON...

NOBODY HOME..!

LOOKS LIKE THIS ONCE WE'RE A STEP AHEAD OF THE **JOKER, BATMAN!**

BUT THEN...

eh? A NOTE--**GREAT SHADES OF NIGHT!**

I SMELL SOMETHING FISHY...

HE BEAT US TO IT!

Dear **BATMAN** and **ROBIN,**

Don't bother looking for the Original Model Typewriter--or for **ME!**

Laughingly yours,

THE **JOKER**

MEANWHILE, HARD-WORKING THIEVES RELAX IN THE JOKER'S HIDE-OUT...

YOU SEE GAGGY'S LATEST, FELLERS? HE'S MADE HIMSELF A LIFE-SIZE DUPLICATE OF HIS MORTAL ENEMY ROBIN--

--AND HE ATTACKS IT EVERY CHANCE HE GETS!

KNOM!

TAKE THAT-- AN' THAT!

P! HA HA HO HOHO!

WHY, YOU--! I'LL-- OWW!

THAT OUGHTA TICKLE THE JOKER'S FUNNY BONE!

FFUNNY?

GROAN!

HAHAHAHAHAHAHA

THAT DID IT! GAGGY'S INSPIRED ME WITH ANOTHER ORIGINAL CRIME CAPER -- MY GREATEST YET!

GAGGY, IF BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN FIGURE OUT THE CLUE I'VE GIVEN THEM IN THIS LETTER I'M MAILING TO A NEWSPAPER, YOU'LL SOON HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE AT THE BOY WONDER!

I'LL "BOY WONDER" HIM, BOSS!

NEXT DAY, IN THE GOTHAM TIMES...

"Dear BATMAN AND ROBIN-- Are your wits as slow as your fists? My next ORIGINAL CAPER will be the greatest steal in History! Get the point? (Ha Ha!) THE JOKER

WHAT CAN THAT GAG MEAN, BATMAN?

THE JOKER'S TAUNTING US! HE CAN'T RESIST CROWING OVER HIS RECENT SUCCESSES AGAINST US! WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT THIS LETTER OF HIS, ROBIN! THE 'GREATEST STEAL IN HISTORY'..? WAIT A SEC--!

THE ORIGINAL CITY HALL OF GOTHAM CITY--THERE'S A CEREMONY TODAY OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO DEDICATE IT AS AN OFFICIAL MONUMENT--!

BATMAN, YOU'VE HIT IT! THE "POINT" IN THE LETTER--

--MUST BE THE JOKER'S WAY OF REFERRING TO THE OLD CITY HALL'S STEEPLE!

LET'S GET GOING! THE CEREMONY IS ON NOW!

INDEED, IT HAS BEGUN:..

FELLOW CITIZENS, THE ELEMENTS HAVE NOT FAVORED US WITH A SUNNY DAY! BUT DESPITE THE THREATENING CLOUDS WE SHALL PROCEED WITH OUR DEDICATION OF THIS PRECIOUS RELIC OF OUR PAST!

THEN, INCREDIBLY...

I REMEMBER-- (GULP!) GREAT THUNDERATION!

THE WHOLE BUILDING'S GOING UP IN THE AIR!

WHAT'S HAP-PENING?!

HAHAHAHA

THE JOKER'S LAUGH! QUICK, ROBIN-- WE CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY WITH THIS!

LIKE AROUSED TIGERS, THE TWO MASKED CRIME-FIGHTERS CATAPULT THEMSELVES HIGH INTO THE AIR...

GRAB ON, ROBIN!

HAHAHAHAHO THIS IS THE CLIMAX OF MY CAREER! TO STEAL THE CITY HALL--THE ORIGINAL CITY HALL--RIGHT UNDER THE MAYOR'S NOSE! HAHA! WHAT A COUP!

ON A PREPARED SITE, CARE-FULLY CAMOUFLAGED TO AVOID DETECTION FROM THE AIR, SOON AFTER...

HOW ABOUT IT, BAGGY? DIDN'T I SAY THIS WOULD TOP ALL?

YOU SURE GOT AN ORIGINAL WAY OF COMMITTING CRIMES, BOSS! YAHH!!

THEN...WHILE THE BUFFOON OF BURGLARY IS STILL CHORTLING...

HIT 'EM HARD, ROBIN!

BATMAN AND ROBIN? Uhh--I'VE BE EXPECTING YOU--

I REALLY HAVEN'T--BUT I WOULDN'T ADMIT IT TO THEM!

CITY HALL

AS A WILD MELEE BREAKS OUT...

YOU'RE NEXT, JOKER!

THUD!

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME, BATMAN!

SOK!

SUDDENLY FROM AN OVERHANGING TREE — BRANCH DROPS GAGGY...

I GOT BATMAN, BOSS--WITH HIS EYES COVERED! CRACK HIM--CRACK HIM!

HAHAHOHO! I'LL GIVE HIM MY PATENTED PUNCH-LINE!

BUT WITH INSTINCTIVE SPEED, THE ACE SLEUTH BENDS AT THE KNEE...AND...

WUMP!

YAGG!

OOPS!

THEN, MIGHTY MUSCLES EXPLODE WITH EARTHQUAKE FORCE...

OFF!

POW!

THIS IS ONCE...I DON'T HEAR YOU LAUGHING, JOKER..!

ULLGG!

KRAK!

AHHJO!

POW!

SOCK!

WHAT'LL I DO WITH THIS ONE, BATMAN? HE'S DEAD TO THE WORLD!

HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT WHEN HE COMES TO, ROBIN! BY THAT TIME ...

...HE'LL BE IN A PLACE WHERE THEY TAKE CARE OF ALL GUESTS AND WATCH OVER THEM--TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY!

I GET YOU, BATMAN! JAIL--JAIL--THE GANG'S ALL HERE!

POLICE SCREEE

SURE ENOUGH, IN DUE COURSE ...AFTER ALL THE EXCITEMENT HAS DIED DOWN AND THE LOOT RECOVERED...

HOW I HATE JAIL! SAY SOMETHING--DO SOMETHING--TO MAKE ME LAUGH, GAGGY!

MAKE YOU LAUGH? HAVE YOU TAKEN A LOOK AT ME, BOSS?

MY-MY! I DID THAT TO YOU?! MY POOR LITTLE PAL--!

AWW--IT WAS NOTHING, BOSS! ALL IN THE LINE OF DUTY! GAGGY THE SOLDIER! HEH HEH!

The End

SECOND SUPER-SMASH ISSUE OF THE ULTIMATE UTMOST IN COMIC MAGAZINES—

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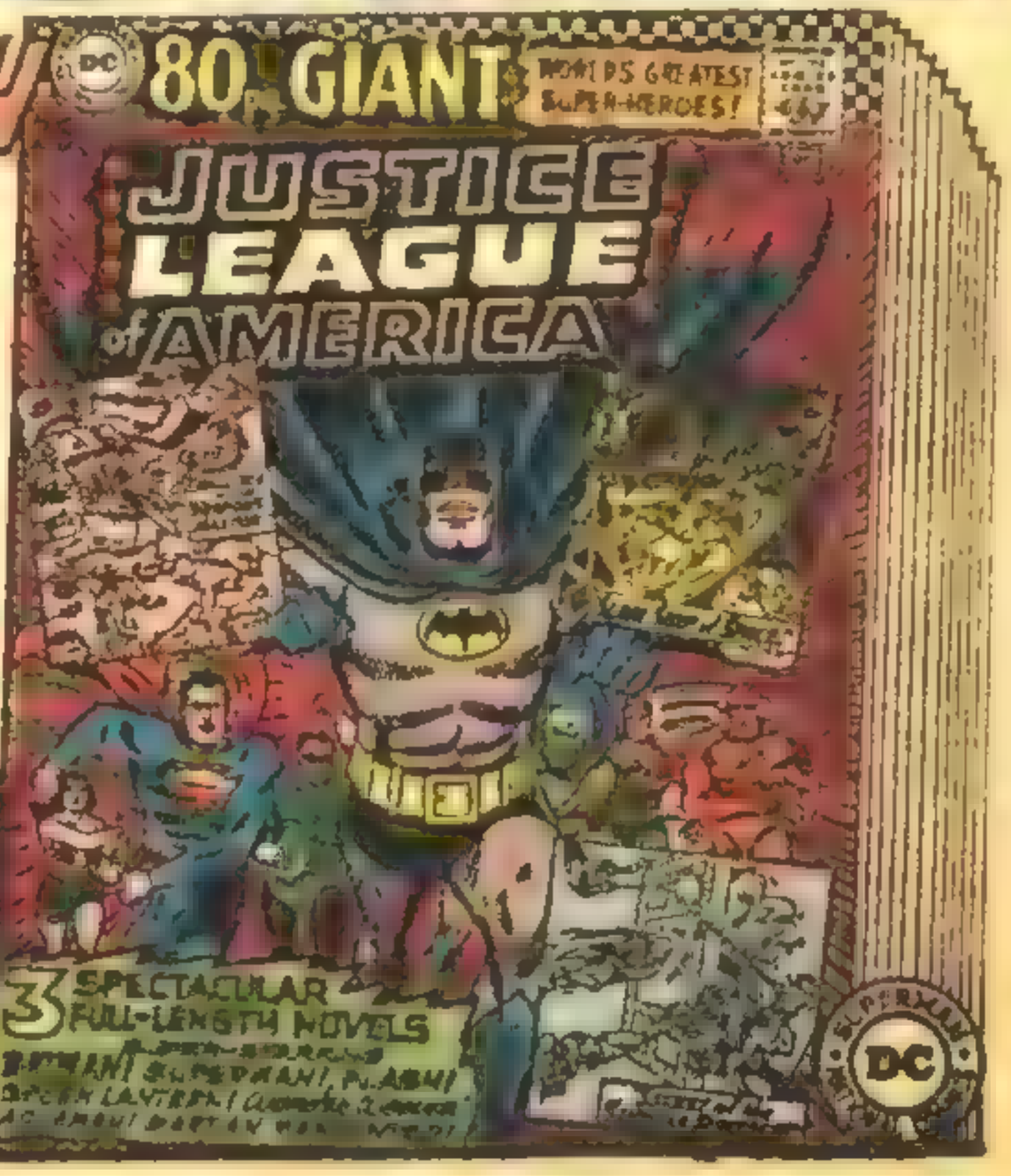

CAP'S HOBBY HINTS
HOW TO DO IT BETTER

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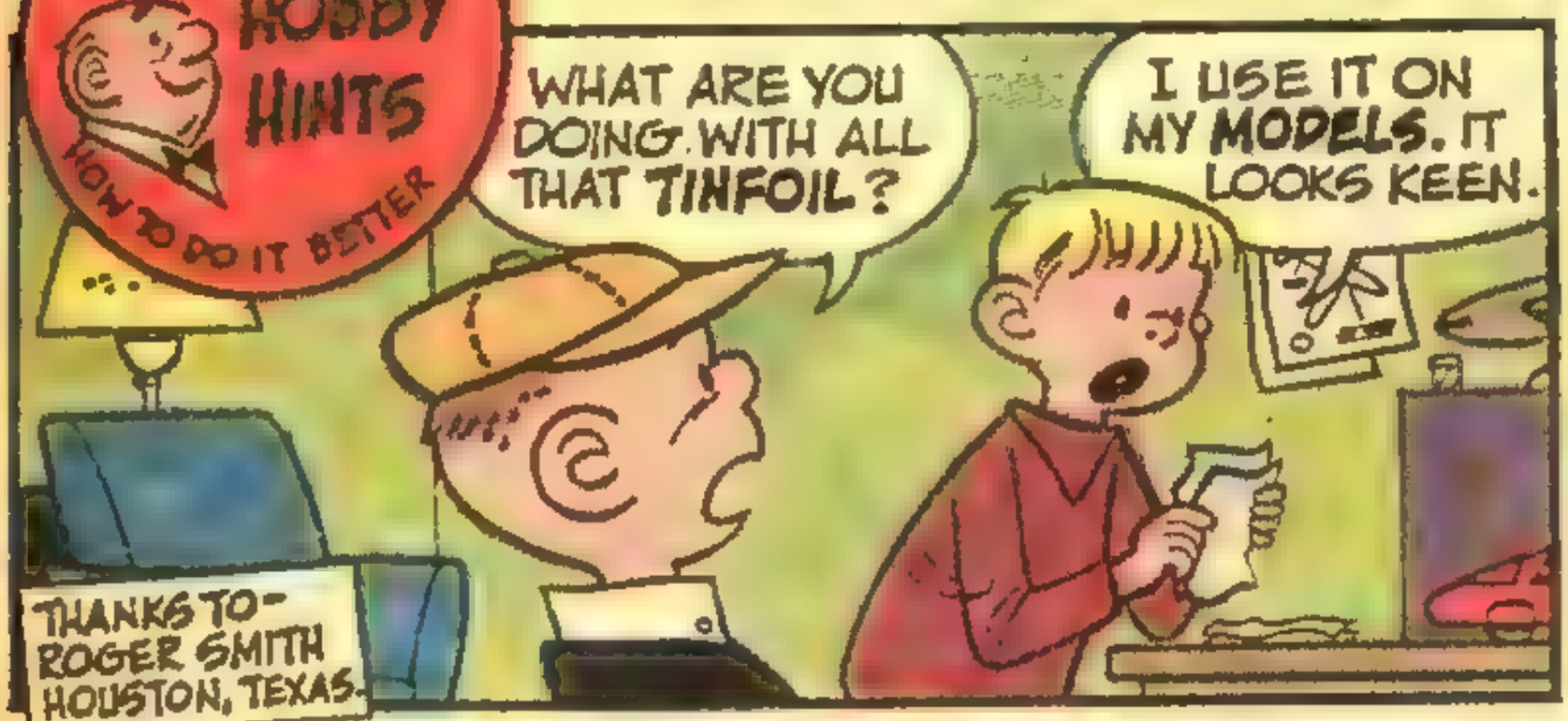
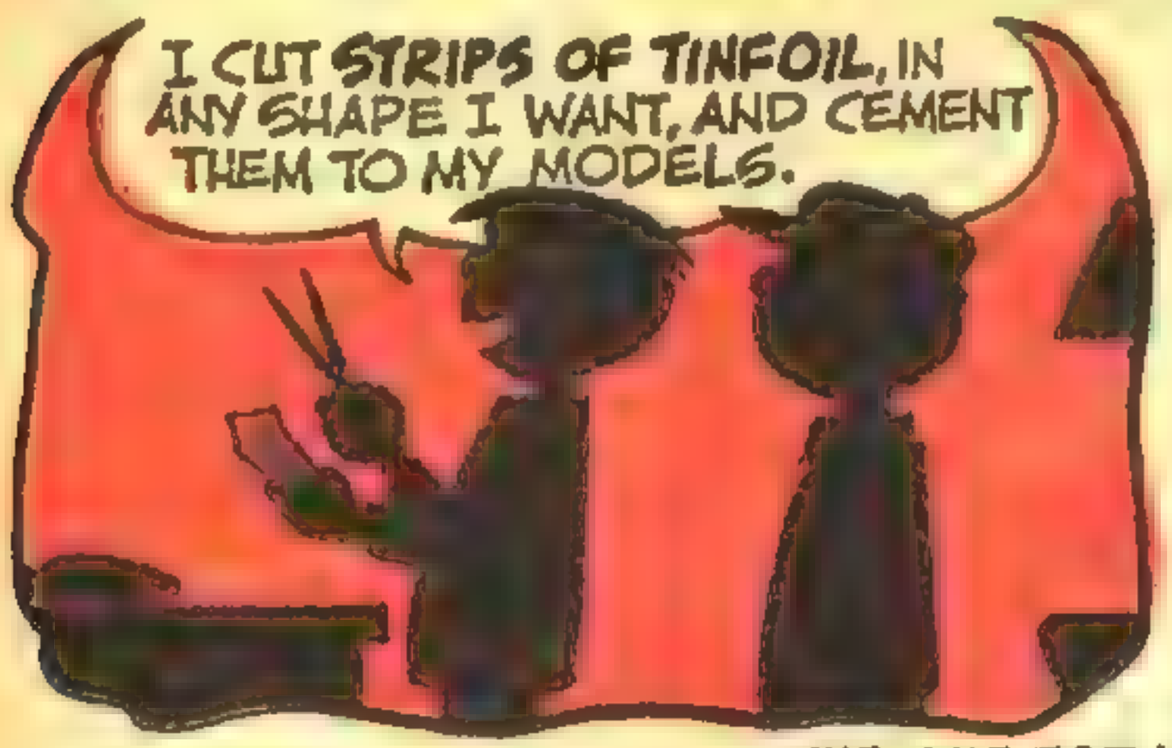
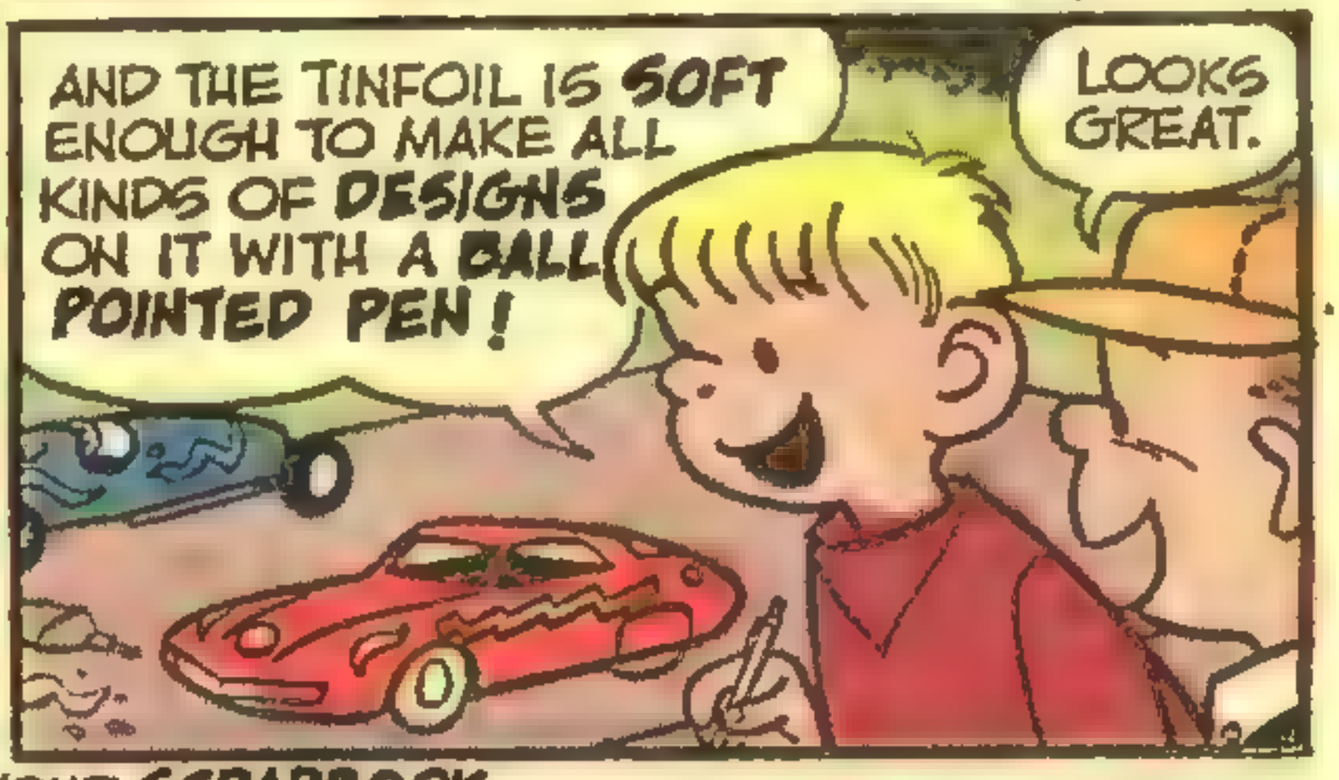
IF PUBLISHED, YOU WILL RECEIVE $5 AND THE ORIGINAL ART.







CUT OUT FOR YOUR SCRAPBOOK

WOW! SON, THIS IS THE MOST FUN I'VE HAD IN YEARS!
HMM! DAD NEVER THOUGHT OF GETTING ME THIS GREAT TRAIN 'TIL I SHOWED HIM MY COLOSSAL NEW LIONEL CATALOG--IT REALLY SOLD HIM.
NOW I'M GONNA MAKE SURE DAD SEES THE HO RACEWAY SETS IN MY CATALOG-- YOU NEVER KNOW 'TIL YOU TRY--- HEE-HEE!
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LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE

Dear Editor:

Holy pulchritude! As if James Bond and his bunch didn't have enough willowy villainesses traipsing after them, now *Batman* and *Robin* have to get into the act, too! Well, the world of derring-do may be painfully replete with these malicious minxes, but despite this fact, I found the appearance of *Poison Ivy* (*Batman* 181) quite appealing. For several reasons:

I think the best thing in her favor is that she lacks the real capacity for evil. To me, she appeared as a little child, thoroughly spoiled by over-indulgent parents, who were able and willing to cater to her whims. She appeared bored with life, never having to face its material challenges, and chose to create her own through a life of crime. *That* is a refreshing change, and in itself justifies the use of a much stereotyped character.

A second big point in her favor is her unpretentious (hopefully) claim of having committed the perfect crime. I don't know how you feel, but if *I* were *Batman* this statement would give me fits, especially after becoming somewhat painfully aware of her capabilities. If you refuse to elaborate on *Poison Ivy*'s "perfect crime" I swear by the mighty *batmobile*, I'll come to your offices with half of fandom to picket and protest!

Last but certainly not least is Bob Kane's excellent rendition of *Poison Ivy* and her three counterparts, *Silken Spider*, *Tiger Moth*, and *Dragon Fly!*

—*Bob Butts, South Bend, Ind.*

(Your *Poison Ivy* character analysis sounds like a man of the world who knows all about the women of the world. You're a fellow to be envied!—*Editor*)

• • •

Dear Editor:

I can just imagine myself listening to the thoughts of writer Bob Kanigher as he accumulates ideas for the *Batman* story, "*Beware of—Poison Ivy!*" "Now let's see," he says to himself, "first of all, I need a new villain but what will be his gimmick? So in turn he invents *Poison Ivy*. "Now," he says to himself, "what if we present a romance between *Batman* and *Poison Ivy* and to make it even more spicy let's add *Bruce Wayne* to bring in a touch of irony." On top of this he says to himself, "Let's add three co-star deadly villainous females." Then putting all of these elements together he rounds out a 12 page story called "*Beware of—Poison Ivy*" and says, "The readers are going to love this one," but do they? *I* for one didn't! With all the plots, sub-plots, and sub-sub-plots the reader has the feeling that the story was messily put together which it was. Instead, you should have had another story before this one to show *Poison Ivy*'s personality and ability. Why with so many women villains in one story it wasn't hard to be confused!

—*J. Burnett, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.*

(Victor Hugo's admonition that women are "the enigma of the 19th century" could just as well be applied to the 20th!—*Editor*)

• • •

Dear Editor:

For the second issue in a row of *Batman*, Robert Kanigher has scored with a great story. "*Beware of—Poison Ivy*" is fabulous, *Poison Ivy* herself is fabulous, the script—plot, dialogue, characterization, and most of all, the untied strings—is fabulous, Bob Kane's work is fabulous and the inking is pretty good, too.

Awhile ago, I asked if you were ever going to bring back the *Cat-Woman* (along with a bunch of old *Batman* foes) and you replied that instead of relying only on old villains you were introducing some new ones, including *Poison Ivy*. Well, now as far as I'm concerned, *Cat-Woman* can stick to the *80-Page Batman Giants* forever. *Ivy* is everything *C-W* was, plus more. She steals not so much for the money as for the fame, she was a crush on *Batman*, and she is a pretty slick operator, *but* she also goes for *Bruce Wayne*, which the *Cat-Woman* never did, and she has a lot better costume than *C-W* (man, does she have a better outfit!). Here's one reader who hopes that *Poison Ivy* breaks out many times in the future.

The *Mystery Analysts* story, "Perfect Crime—Slightly Imperfect," is a perfect compliment to the first. You have finally reached the potential greatness the series has promised, but never fulfilled. The script was great (whodunit? I can't recognize the style. My stab in the dark is for Bill Finger) and it gave us a real mystery and some great detection on the part of the *Dynamic Detective*. Fine action scenes, too. Of course, Sid Greene's inking can't be beat and editorial problems or not, I want him doing it ALL! (Ah, how good it feels to sit here 3000 miles away and tell you what to do.)

—*Mike Friedrich, Castro Valley, Calif.*

(You put the wrong (Bill) Finger on the writer of the *Mystery Analysts* story. You out-*Foxed* yourself, in a *Gardner* sort of way!—*Editor*)

• • •

Dear Editor:

Not meaning to complain or anything, but the cover of the June *Batman* just wasn't up to par. To start with, the "Trouble between the Dynamic Duo" wasn't much, so why such angry looks on B&R? "The Perfect Crime—Slightly Imperfect" was fair as far as story goes, but Bob Kane's art was just FAB, GEAR & A-OK on top o' that! The *Poison Ivy* story was great—but why she wants to be acknowledged as a criminal is beyond me—she could've just gone scot-free except for telling everybody she was a BADGUY. I liked the romantic interest—kinda like jello—slight but not too slight! Anyhoo, I'm just ITCHIN' to see *Poison Ivy* again!

—*Peter Rost, Cheshire, Conn.*

• • •

Dear Editor:

In your *Batman* comic mag, 181, the story "Perfect Crime—Slightly Imperfect" made mention of a *Sherlock Award*. Is there such a thing? And if so could you tell me more about it?

—*William Lee Wesselhoff, DeKalb, Ill.*

(The *Sherlock* was a take-off on the *Edgar* (for Edgar Allan Poe) awarded annually by the *Mystery Writers of America* for the best detective-mystery stories of the year.—*Editor*)

• • •

Address all communications regarding this magazine to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York, 10022. Please send communications concerning the *Batman-TV* program directly to your local TV station!

BATMAN

With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER

AN EXPLOSION IN A HOTEL ROOM IN RESORT CITY -- KNOCKING OUT BATMAN!...

A BLOW ON THE HEAD IN GOTHAM CITY -- FELLING ROBIN!...

KRAK!

KAWW!

KABLAM!

BOB KANE

THESE APPARENTLY UNRELATED EVENTS ARE ACTUALLY TWO LINKS IN THE STRANGE CASE WHICH HAS POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON MARKED FOR DEATH -- SOMEWHERE OUTSIDE GOTHAM CITY!

WITHOUT CLUES -- SUFFERING INJURIES THEY HAVE SUSTAINED IN THE LINE OF DUTY -- BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE HARD-PRESSED TO INTERCEPT THE GRIM REAPER FROM CARRYING OUT --

COMMISSIONER GORDON'S Death-Threat!

IT IS EARLY EVENING IN THE *GOTHAM CITY* POLICE HEADQUARTERS. A DARK, GRIM FIGURE STRIDES DOWN THE CORRIDOR -- AS A VOICE RINGS OUT...

BATMAN! COMMISSIONER GORDON JUST PHONED FROM *RESORT CITY* ASKING YOU TO CALL HIM -- ON A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH!

HE SAYS TO TELL YOU -- IT'S *HIS* LIFE AND *HIS* DEATH!

WHEW! I'LL CALL FROM HIS PRIVATE OFFICE! CONNECT ME WITH HIM, PLEASE!

AS THE CALL IS PUT THROUGH -- IN THE HOTEL ROOM WHERE THE POLICE COMMISSIONER IS VACATIONING...

BATMAN! THANK HEAVEN! MY LIFE IS IN DEADLY DANGER! I'M IN ROOM 721, HIDING OUT--BECAUSE FORTY YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS A ROOKIE COP, I CAUGHT A CROOK NAMED FRED PURLEY ROBBING THE *FOXCROFT JEWEL SALON!* THAT MADE HIM A FOUR-TIME LOSER...

"JUDGE PARKER THREW THE BOOK AT HIM..."

I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW ON FOURTH OFFENDERS -- TO LIFE IM-PRISONMENT!

"THEN, AS PURLEY RANTED AND RAGED WHILE BEING TAKEN FROM THE COURT-ROOM..."

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, GORDON! I'M GONNA GET YOU FOR THIS -- SOMEDAY... SOMEHOW...

A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO I READ IN THE PAPERS HE WAS BEING PAROLED -- PARDONED BY THE GOVERNOR FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR! I HAD A ROUND OF PUBLIC APPEARANCES TO MAKE AND FORGOT ABOUT TILL NOW -- WHEN I RECALLED HIS FORTY-YEAR OLD THREAT! IT MAY HAVE BEEN A CRACKPOT THREAT BUT---

YOU CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES, COMMISSIONER! STAY WHERE YOU ARE! I'M COMING RIGHT DOWN! DON'T LET *ANY-ONE* IN BUT ME! TOGETHER, WE'LL FIGURE OUT A WAY TO KEEP YOU SAFE!

AS THE CALL IS COMPLETED...

I SURE FOOLED, BATMAN, COMMISSIONER! I TRAINED MY VOICE TO SOUND EXACTLY LIKE YOURS--AND NOW IT'S PAYING OFF!

BATMAN WAS DUPED INTO BELIEVING HE WAS TALKING TO ME— AND WILL COME DOWN HERE TO MEET HIS DEATH!

SOON, THE BATCOPTER IS LIFTING OVER GOTHAM CITY, HUMMING SOUTHWARD...

I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO TELL ROBIN WHAT'S GOING ON-- SO I LEFT HIM A NOTE IN THE BATCAVE...

A HALF-HOUR LATER...

COMMISSIONER GORDON--IT'S BATMAN! OPEN UP— LET ME IN!

721

KNOCK! KNOCK!

NO ANSWER! MORE RAPPING-- AND STILL NO RESPONSE!

HE'D BE TOO APPREHENSIVE TO SLEEP— ESPECIALLY WITH ME COMING TO MEET HIM! I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS... I'LL OPEN THE LOCKED DOOR WITH MY ELECTRONIC SKELETON KEY...

721 KNOCK! KNOCK!

THE ROOM'S DARK! I'M MORE CERTAIN THAN EVER THAT THERE'S SOMETHING SHADY ABOUT THIS WHOLE AFFAIR! I'LL JUST REACH IN A HAND AND TURN ON THE LIGHT-SWITCH...

NEXT INSTANT...

BOOBY-TRAPPED!

KAA-BAAAM!

IN GOTHAM CITY, SOME TIME LATER..

WONDER WHY BATMAN SLICED AIR FOR RESORT CITY? HE SAID HE WENT ON BUSINESS--THAT I WAS TO RIDE THE LONESOME TRAIL TONIGHT. I JUST HOPE I SEE SOME ACTION... OH! OH!

AND ACTION IT IS! THREE CROOKS COMING FROM THE FOXCROFT JEWEL SALON-- MAKING FOR THAT GETAWAY CAR!

DIAM

FOXCROFT

HEYY--IT'S ROBIN!

WE GOT RID OF BATMAN-- BUT HIS SIDEKICK IS STILL WITH US!

ZOOOM!

BRAKES SQUEAL! TIRES SCREECH! THE BATMOBILE SWERVES AND...

HE CUT ME OFF!

SKREECH!

NOTHING LIKE USING ONE HOOD--TO CATCH THREE HOODS!

PUMP LEAD INTO HIM!

I FEEL REAL SHARP TONIGHT, BOYS--SO I'LL CUT YOU IN ON THE ACTION!

NOW I'LL SERVE UP A HELPING OF BOLOS!

WHAM!

A THIRD GUN BLASTS--BUT...

WHAT A CONVENIENT PLACE TO PUT A WATER HYDRANT!

PING

FROM HIS UTILITY BELT THE BOY WONDER LIFTS OUT A TOOL AND WITH DEFT HANDS...

"WATER" YOU GOING TO DO NOW, FELLA?

WHOOSHH!

A QUICK WRENCH TIGHTENS THE HYDRANT AND THEN...

HERE'S WHERE I GET A GRIP ON A DRIP!

THEN, JUST AS HIS FIST RAMS HOME...

ROBIN--! NO, NO! STOP IT!

HUH? THAT'S POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S VOICE!

KRUNK!

COMMISSIONER, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE--? eh? YOU AREN'T--

SLUG HIM!!

WHAPP!!

THAT WAS A SMART TRICK, PURLEY! NOW WE CAN GO AHEAD WITH THE REST OF OUR PLAN--AND FINISH OFF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER!

SOMEWHAT LESS THAN AN HOUR LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

I WANT TO SEE THE FORTY-YEAR OLD FILES ON JEWEL ROBBERIES! COMMISSIONER GORDON'S IN SERIOUS TROUBLE AND-- ROBIN--- WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I CAME IN TO REPORT A ROBBERY AT THE FOXCROFT JEWEL SALON. AND WHAT'S THAT ABOUT COMMISSIONER GORDON--?

AS EACH OF THE CRIME-BUSTING COMPANIONS TELLS HIS STORY...

...AND THAT CROOK IMITATED THE COMMISSIONER'S VOICE SO PERFECTLY, I FELL FOR IT-- WITH A RAP ON THE BACK OF THE HEAD!

AND MY LEFT HAND'S IN BAD SHAPE FROM THE EXPLOSION! THE FOXCROFT JEWELRY STORE--AND THE COMMISSIONER! EVERYTHING'S BEGINNING TO ADD UP!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

BOBBY'S SECRET COLLECTION

DICK AND DAVE ARE TRYING TO FIND OUT WHAT BOBBY HAS BEEN HIDING...

HE'S BEEN MAKING CAR MODELS!

WHAT A TERRIFIC COLLECTION UP ON THE WALL!

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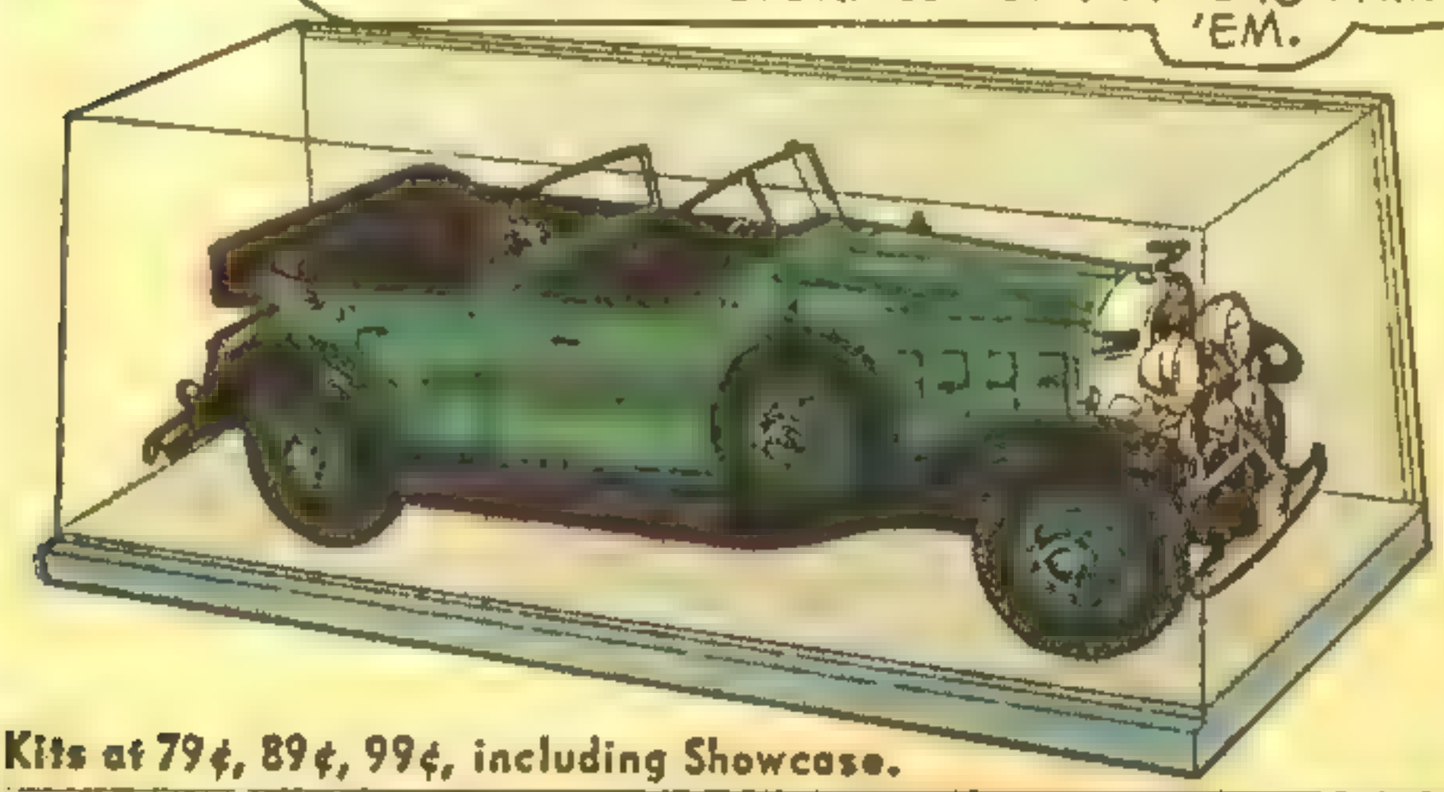

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IT WASN'T COMMISSIONER GORDON I TALKED ON THE TELEPHONE--BUT FRED PURLEY IMITATING HIS VOICE--JUST AS HE IMITATED IT TO FOOL YOU! HE HAD ME TELEPHONE HIM TO LURE ME TO *RESORT CITY* AND A BOMB-TRAP THAT MIGHT HAVE FINISHED ME OFF IF I HADN'T THE PROTECTION OF THE DOOR...

THEN PURLEY HAS THE LOOT FROM HIS ROBBERY--AND THE COMMISSIONER, TOO!

IF I KNOW HIS WARPED MIND, PURLEY WILL WANT TO GLOAT OVER THE FACT THAT HE FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN ROBBING THE JEWEL SALON GORDON STOPPED HIM FROM ROBBING FORTY YEARS AGO!

--AND AFTER THAT?

HE'LL SHOW OUR OLD FRIEND NO MERCY! WE'VE GOT TO TRACK DOWN PURLEY! *ROBIN*--CAN YOU THINK OF *ANY WAY* WE CAN FIND HIM--AND FAST?

GOSH, NO! THEY COULD BE ANYWHERE! I SAW THE LICENSE NUMBER OF THE CAR--BUT IT WAS PROBABLY STOLEN--AND BESIDES, WE'D NEVER LEARN THE OWNER IN TIME TO STOP WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP IT! THINK, *ROBIN*! TRY TO REMEMBER *SOMETHING* THAT MIGHT BE A CLUE--

IT'S ZEROES FOR HEROES, *BATMAN*! I CAN'T RECALL A SINGLE--WAIT! I SAW A COMMUTER PASS FOR THE *FLAME ISLAND* BRIDGE IN THE POCKET OF ONE CROOK AS I PASTED HIM WITH KNUCKLE GLUE! IT COULD MEAN--

--THAT THE CROOKS ARE USING *FLAME ISLAND*--AS A HIDE-OUT! THEY COULD'VE BEEN TRAVELING OVER THE BRIDGE A LOT--DRIVING HERE TO "CASE" THE JEWEL STORE THEY ROBBED!

SEEMS LIKE AN ALMOST HOPELESS TASK! THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF HOMES ON *FLAME ISLAND*! BUT IT'S BETTER THAN STANDING AROUND DOING NOTHING!

I'LL ASK THE POLICE OVER THE *BATCOPTER'S* SHORT-WAVE RADIO TO BEGIN THEIR OWN INVESTIGATION OF THOSE HOUSES, ONE BY ONE!

ALL WE CAN DO IS HOPE THAT PERHAPS POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON HIMSELF CAN FIND A WAY TO CLUE US IN TO WHERE HE IS!

DON'T COUNT ON IT! MORE LIKELY WE'LL HAVE TO DEPEND ON SHEER LUCK!

POLICE HEA
GOTHA
CITY
POLICE HE

THE NIGHT IS DARK--BUT HERE AND THERE ON *FLAME ISLAND*, A FEW LIGHTS GLEAM BRIGHTLY...

WHAT A BLUNT HUNT THIS IS GOING TO BE!

KEEP LOOKING! IT ISN'T MUCH--BUT IT'S ALL WE CAN DO!

AND THEN--GLEAMING BRIGHTLY AGAINST A TREE-BOLE...

BATMAN--AM I FLIPPIN'--OR IS THAT OUR GOOD OLD *BAT-SIGNAL*?

WHAAAT?! I THOUGHT MAYBE HE MIGHT FIND A WAY TO SIGNAL US--BUT THIS IS *TOO* MUCH! WHERE'S THE SIGNAL COMING FROM?

THE WINDOW OF THAT TOWER ROOM SEEMS TO BE PAINTED BLACK--BUT MY BINOCULARS SHOW AN OUTLINE OF THE BAT-SIGNAL SCRATCHED IN THAT PAINT!

IN A MATTER OF SECONDS THE *BATCOPTER* RESTS ON THE BIG LAWN AND...

THOSE TOWER WINDOWS MUST BE SHATTER-PROOF OR THE CROOKS WOULDN'T HAVE PUT GORDON UP THERE! OTHERWISE HE COULD HAVE SMASHED THEM AND CALLED FOR HELP!

WE'LL BE GOOD GUESTS AND GO IN THE FRONT DOOR--AND UP THE STAIRS!

IN THE TOWER ROOM AT THE HEAD OF THE CIRCULAR STAIRCASE...

YOU STOPPED ME ONCE, GORDON! BUT TONIGHT I GOT MY REVENGE -- AS I PROMISED!

SOON AS I GOT OUT OF STIR I ATTENDED ALL THOSE AFFAIRS WHERE YOU WERE MAKING PUBLIC APPEARANCES, SO I COULD LEARN TO IMITATE YOUR VOICE! AS A RESULT -- *BATMAN'S* DEAD AND *ROBIN* GROGGY!

NEITHER OF THEM CAN STOP ME FROM-- *HUH?*

DROP IT, PURLEY!

CRASH!

HAVE NO FEAR-- *ROBIN'S* HERE!

ZOK!

WHUMPP!

I TOLD YOU -- GET AWAY FROM HIM!

WHUMP!

BATMAN! HOW IN THE NAME OF ALL THAT'S SANE DID YOU EVER MANAGE TO FIND ME?

WHY THE SURPRISE, COMMISSIONER? YOU GUIDED ME HERE--WITH THAT BAT-SIGNAL YOU SCRATCHED OUT ON THE PAINTED WINDOW!

WHAK

B-BUT THAT ISN'T WHY I MADE IT--!

TO WHILE AWAY THE TIME WHILE I WAS KEPT HERE IN DARKNESS, I "DOODLED" THAT SIGN WITH MY TIE-CLASP--REMEMBERING THE MANY TIMES YOU'VE COME TO ANSWER MY CALL! WHEN PURLEY CAME IN AND SET DOWN HIS KEROSENE LAMP--OF COURSE! HE PUT IT BEHIND THE SIGNAL AND MADE IT BEAM OUT INTO THE NIGHT!

OOOPS! BATMAN--BE MORE CAREFUL WHERE YOU KNOCK THOSE CROOKS!

BUT, PURLEY--WHY DID YOU ALERT BATMAN TO THIS CASE BY PHONING HIM IN MY VOICE?

FORTY YEARS AGO THERE WAS NO BATMAN! I FIGURED I'D GET RID OF HIM--TO MAKE SURE HE DIDN'T SPOIL MY PLAN!

LIKE MAN--THESE RAT-FINKS NEVER LEARN!

THE END

Professor Ira West
invites you to attend
the marriage of his daughter
Iris
to
Barry Allen
in the November issue of The FLASH